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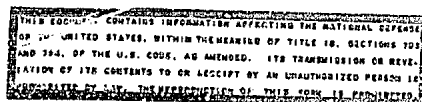
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NEW PHARMACEUTICAL PLANT TO MANUFACTURE PENICILLIN

The nearly completed Duclos Pharmaceutical plant located in the woods near Debrecen, will begin large-scale manufacture of penicillin and other antibiotics this year. Originally planned as the Hajdusagi Gyogyszergyar (Hajdusag Pharmaceutical Plant) and later rechristened in honor of Jacques Duclos, it will rank among the most completely mechanized concerns in Hungary.

The layout of the plant is patterned after that of the Chinoin Works, with tiled chemical laboratories on the ground floor and biological laboratories on the three floors above.

Penicillin production will begin in a sterile chamber which is kept at constant temperature by thermostatic control. Here, chemically pure penicillium fungus spores will be cultured and put into increasingly larger receptacles as they multiply. Their culture medium is to consist of several sugars such as corn syrup and the by-products of potato starch manufacture, mixed with nutritional salts.

When the culture is sufficiently voluminous, it will be put into an apparatus for preliminary fermentation. From there, it will go into vats having a capacity of several thousand liters to be still further fermented. These vats are equipped with delicate gauges showing the degree of the penicillium's multiplication.

Pipes lead from the fermenting vats to filters where the first purification will take place, then to a room refrigerated by brine solution. After refrigeration, special, glass-shielded machines will extract the crystalizable penicillin from the penicillium fungus. Refining, drying, and another checking complete the manufacturing process.

Laboratory equipment is now being tested in preparation for making a trial batch of drugs. Output is expected to exceed that of the Chinoin Works, which produces penicillin by the quintal, to such an extent as to make possible the export of penicillin.

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